

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 46-70 are pending in the application, with claims 46 and 64 being the independent claims. Claims 46 and 64 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claims 46-70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Leung, U.S. Patent No. 6,760,444 (Leung). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Leung teaches a system and method for authenticating a roaming mobile node during a Mobile IP registration process. In a mobile IP environment, in order for a roaming mobile node (now coupled to a Foreign Agent) to successfully receive messages, the roaming mobile node must register with its Home Agent. (Leung, col. 2, lines 46). In Leung, during the registration process, the mobile node "constructs a registration request message including an authenticator" and sends the request to the Home Agent. (Leung, col. 8, lines 26-29). The Home Agent then determines the server handling the security association for the roaming mobile node and sends a packet containing the request to the server. (Leung, col. 8, lines 29-50). The server may then

authenticate the mobile node using a security association "obtained from the server."
(Leung, col. 8, lines 51-57). After authentication, a reply packet is sent to the Home Agent indicating the status of authentication of the mobile node. (Leung, col. 8, lines 63-66). The Home Agent then registers the mobile node and sends a registration reply to the mobile node. (Leung, col. 8, lines 8-12).

Leung does not teach or suggest "a classification module that determines security association information associated with each data packet in a plurality of data packets, wherein the classification module is configured to provide at least a portion of the security information associated with the data packets to a plurality of security processing engines that perform authentication and cryptographic functions," as recited in amended independent claim 46. Furthermore Leung does not teach or suggest a method for classifying data packets including "receiving at least a portion of a header for each data packet in a plurality of data packets; determining security association information associated with each data packet in the plurality of data packets; and for each data packet in the plurality of data packets, providing at least a portion of the security association information associated with the data packet to a corresponding security processing engine in a plurality of security processing engines that perform authentication and cryptographic functions," as recited in amended independent claim 64.

For example, as described above, the server in Leung is involved only during the registration process of a roaming mobile node and receives only registration request messages. The server does not receive data packets originated by the roaming mobile node or destined for the roaming mobile node. Therefore, Leung does not determine security association information *associated with each data packet in a plurality of data*

packets, as recited in amended independent claims 46 and 64. Furthermore, the server in Leung provides only authentication processing. Therefore, Leung does not teach or suggest a plurality of security processing engines *that perform authentication and cryptographic functions*, as recited in amended independent claims 46 and 64.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Leung does not teach or suggest every feature recited in Applicants' amended independent claims 46 and 64. Therefore, Applicants request favorable consideration of amended independent claims 46 and 64. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, claims 47-63 which depend from claim 46, and claims 65-70 which depend from claim 64, respectively, are patentable over Leung. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the ground of rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

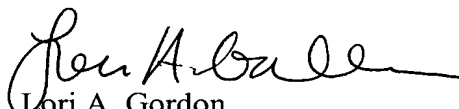
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Gordon", written over the printed name.

Lori A. Gordon
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 50,633

Date: April 4, 2005

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

354358-1